Case 1:07-cv-03660-DLC . Document 11 Filed 02/04/2008 Page 1 of 3 U.S. Department of Justice

JAN 2 8 2008

CHAMBERS OF DENISE COTE

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

86 Chambers Street New York, New York, 10007

January 25, 2008

By Hand

Hon. Denise L. Cote United States District Judge United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street, Room 1040 New York, New York 10007

> Re: <u>Juan Tavera v. Astrue</u> 07 Civ. 3360(DLC)

> > 3660

Dear Judge Cote:

USDC SDNY
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EMO ENDORSED

This Office represents the Commissioner of Social Security, defendant in this action. We write respectfully to request an adjournment of the Court's briefing schedule.

By order dated December 11, 2007, the Court ordered that if either party wished to make a motion, it was due by January 25, 2008. This Court further ordered that any opposition to a party's motion was due by February 22, 2008, and any reply was due by March 7, 2008. While drafting defendant's brief, however, we encountered an issue that required this Office to seek further information from the agency. We have asked the Social Security Administration to provide us with an answer to our concerns, which could result in change of the defendant's litigation position in this action. In view of the foregoing, we respectfully request that the Court approve the following schedule:

Defendant will serve a motion by February 22, 2008;

Plaintiff will serve a cross-motion or opposition to defendant's motion by March 21, 2008;

Defendant's reply, if any, is due on April 4, 2008.

Personnel in this Office attempted several times over the past week to reach plaintiff to seek his consent to this adjournment, but they were unsuccessful in their efforts. There have been no previous requests for an adjournment of the briefing schedule in this case.

We apologize to the Court for the delay in making this request, and thank the Court its consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

MICHAEL J. GARCIA United States Attorney

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